

Message

From: Ross, Mary [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=98359CD1F66F46EC91D327E99A3C6909-ROSS, MARY]
Sent: 3/28/2016 2:48:46 PM
To: ORD-NCEA [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=9fd27be854b0475e8c7da44e626886aa-ORD-NCEA]
Subject: FW: ORD/OSA Weekly Report

FYI -

From: Blackburn, Elizabeth
Sent: Sunday, March 27, 2016 9:28 PM
To: ORD-Exec-Council-Directors <Execcouncildirectors@usepa.onmicrosoft.com>; ORD-Mgmt-Council <ORDMgmtCouncil@epa.gov>; ORD-IOAA-Front Office Support <ORDIOAASUPPORT@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: ORD/OSA Weekly Report

All

Please see Tom's note to the Administrator. Happy spring!

Liz

Liz Blackburn
Chief of Staff
EPA Office of Research and Development
202-564-2192
Cell 21 Personal Matters / Ex. 6

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Burke, Thomas" <Burke.Thomas@epa.gov>
Date: March 27, 2016 at 6:56:47 PM EDT
To: "Adm13McCarthy, Gina" <Adm13McCarthy.Gina@epa.gov>, "Meiburg, Stan" <Meiburg.Stan@epa.gov>, "Fritz, Matthew" <Fritz.Matthew@epa.gov>, "Distefano, Nichole" <DiStefano.Nichole@epa.gov>, "Purchia, Liz" <Purchia.Liz@epa.gov>, "Beauvais, Joel" <Beauvais.Joel@epa.gov>, "Garbow, Avi" <Garbow.Avi@epa.gov>, "Vaught, Laura" <Vaught.Laura@epa.gov>, "Pieh, Luseni" <Pieh.Luseni@epa.gov>, "Rupp, Mark" <Rupp.Mark@epa.gov>, "McCabe, Janet" <McCabe.Janet@epa.gov>, "Scaggs, Ben" <Scaggs.Ben@epa.gov>, "Ragland, Micah" <Ragland.Micah@epa.gov>, "Garvin, Shawn" <garvin.shawn@epa.gov>, "McGrath, Shaun" <McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov>, "McLerran, Dennis" <mclerran.dennis@epa.gov>
Cc: "Kavlock, Robert" <Kavlock.Robert@epa.gov>, "Kadeli, Lek" <Kadeli.Lek@epa.gov>, "Blackburn, Elizabeth" <Blackburn.Elizabeth@epa.gov>, "Deener, Kathleen" <Deener.Kathleen@epa.gov>, "Corona, Elizabeth" <Corona.Elizabeth@epa.gov>, "Hubbard, Carolyn" <Hubbard.Carolyn@epa.gov>, "Kim, Hyon" <Kim.Hyon@epa.gov>
Subject: ORD/OSA Weekly Report

Administrator,

I look forward to joining you this week at the Science Advisory Board meeting. The peer review activities of the Board are challenging, but essential to the credibility of Agency science. I plan to focus my remarks on the importance of balancing the

long-term vision to advance the science with our shorter-term scientific and technical support to programs and crisis response. Today's ORD research programs will allow us to provide the science and tools needed to support Agency decisions in the future.

Portland Air Toxics

This week I will also meet with ORD scientists to discuss the potential use of moss as an environmental sensor. This is in follow up to the recent U.S. Forest Service study where moss collected from tree trunks and branches across Portland, Oregon, contained high levels of metals such as cadmium and chromium and were used to locate two hot spots in Portland. We will be discussing the sampling and analytical methods and validation of findings.

National Science and Technology Council

I will participate in the NSTC Committee on Science meeting. The agenda will include a discussion of sexual harassment and how government agencies can best communicate with, enforce and monitor university partners to abide by all Title IX requirements assuring a safe and welcoming STEM environment.

Tire Crumb Update

ORD and CDC are making progress toward securing fields for the study and are optimistic that the Army will provide access in a timely manner. We participated in two meetings with industry last week, one hosted by CPSC and one with EPA. Industry representatives provided useful information on tire crumb processing and on synthetic turf manufacturing and installation. ORD science communications staff held a meeting on 3/24 with staff from EPA, CDC/ATSDR, and CPSC to discuss the draft Tire Crumb Stakeholder Outreach Plan.

Subject matter Expert Meeting to Identify Cybersecurity Research Gaps

On March 30-31, 2016 in DC, ORD is hosting a workshop to identify research needs for cybersecurity at water and

wastewater utilities. The workshop is in response to the Board of Scientific Counselors recommendation that we work with water industries to identify research gaps and needs for the nation's water sector. Workshop participants include water utility experts and associations, federal partners (DHS), and will build on the efforts of the OW-led Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council's Cybersecurity Strategy Workgroup, and the National Science and Technology Council- developed 2016 Federal Cybersecurity Research and Development Strategic Plan.

National Priorities Water Scarcity and Drought Grants

A kick off meeting will be held at Region 8 headquarters on March 30. The focus of these research grants is to develop innovative strategies to protect water quality and public health during periods of drought. Scientists from federal, state, and local agencies and academia will attend.

Technical Support to Argentina

The U.S. Embassy in Argentina has sent letters congratulating ORD for its technical support to the Neuquén Province in 2013 and 2015. ORD's Dr. Joseph Flotemersch, provided technical assistance on bioassessment and monitoring of rivers and streams at various facilities in the Neuquén Province.

ORD Contributions to National Aquatic Resource Survey's National Rivers and Streams Assessment

OW released the National Aquatic Resource Survey's *National Rivers and Streams Assessment 2008–2009: A Collaborative Survey* on March 21. It is the first-ever national monitoring study of the condition of U.S. rivers and streams conducted using a statistical survey design. The report finds that many U.S. rivers and streams do not support healthy aquatic communities and that excess nutrients and poor habitat are widespread problems across the country. ORD worked in partnership with OW on this survey .

ORD/Regional Science Leadership Meeting

Last week ORD and Region 3 hosted the first annual ORD and regional senior leadership meeting. The purpose of the meeting

was to strengthen the ties between ORD and the Regions and discuss ways to strengthen engagement of regional scientists in emerging science issues. A key concern raised by several regions is the decline of regional science capacity due to retirements and reductions in staff. The regions identified needs including a desire for increased communication, mentoring and professional development, and training in key areas including risk communication.